THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) Act 1972, MPEDA is responsible for the development of the marine products industry with special reference to exports. The various initiatives taken include schemes implemented by MPEDA for increasing the exports of marine products from Kerala include, *inter-alia*, participating in the share capital of six companies in project related activities of processing, aquaculture and deep sea fishing; assisting installation of equipment on mechanised vessels for diversified fishing; setting up jointly with the Kerala Industrial Infrastructural Development Corporation (KINFRA) a holding company to promote a pre-processing infrastructure project at Aroor; extending Grant-in-aid for procurement of seafood processing machinery; extend subsidy for establishment of shrimp hatcheries and new shrimp farms; rendering technical assistance to shrimp farmers; promoting fresh water prawn culture in low lying areas; organising training cum extension cum demonstration programmes for the benefit of fisher men, pre-processing and processing workers etc. and implementation of various schemes for quality upgradation and modernising the seafood industry.

Production of natural rubber

1847. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AEND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of natural rubber in the country, particulafly in the NER at present;

(b) whether the production of natural rubber is much less than the demand of the country;

(c) if so the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The detials of production of Natural Rubber in the country

including the production in the North-Eastern region during 1998-99 is given below:—

(in Metric Tonnes)

States	Production
Kerala	559099
Tamil Nadu	20263
Keranataka	12549
NE Region	12183
Others	951
Total :	605045

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Integrated Industrial Development Scheme

†1848. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some areas of Madhya Pradesh have been covered under the Integrated Industrial Development Scheme, under which the development of small industrial sector is done under the instructions of Government and through loans extended by the SIDBI;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the SIDBI has refused to extend loans even after the Central Government's clearance to the development scheme of the Mandole industrial area in district Siwani; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore and the manner in which this scheme would be implemented under these circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The Integrated Infrastructural Development Scheme was launched in 1994 to provide basic infrastructural facilities, in the rural/backward areas. Under the Scheme Central grant upto Rs. 2.00 crore and loan from Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) up to Rs. 3.00 crore is available for each Centre. The State Governments

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.